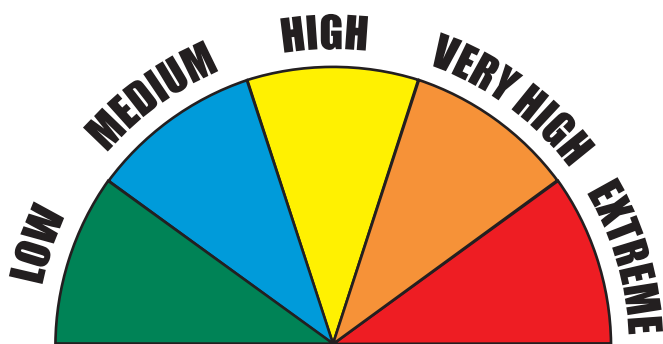


WILDFIRE THE NEXT STORM



The aftermath of recent hurricanes has left Louisiana with a large accumulation of vegetative debris which is drying out and causing a wildfire hazard. Human caused wildfires can be started in a number of ways.

- **Debris Burning – Always practice caution when burning. Please do not burn when fire danger is high.**
- **Lack of a spark arrestor on mechanized equipment, such as chainsaws, leaf blowers and lawnmowers.**
- **Arson – Report suspicious activity to your local authorities.**
- **Industrial operations, such as logging, welding and powerlines.**
- **Children playing with matches or fireworks.**
- **Campfires, bonfires or charcoal fires left unattended.**
- **Cars, trains and other vehicle fires caused by catalytic converters or exhaust emissions.**



Fire danger is the probability of a fire to start, the rate of spread, and intensity of its burn. Awareness of the following fire danger rating levels will help decrease wildfire ignitions.

LOW FIRE DANGER

- Fires do not readily start.
- Fires that do start spread slowly and usually are easy to control.

MODERATE FIRE DANGER

- Fires can start from most accidental causes, but the number of starts is generally low.
- Fires burn at moderate intensities, heavy fuel concentrations will burn hot.

HIGH FIRE DANGER

- Fires start easily from most causes.
- Control of fires can become difficult if initial attack is not initiated promptly, especially in heavy fuels.
- Most fires can be controlled within the first burning period.

VERY HIGH FIRE DANGER

- Fires start readily and spread quickly.
- Resistance to control is high and there is a high potential for large fires.
- Fire behavior is often erratic, "blow up" potential is high.

EXTREME FIRE DANGER

- Severe fire conditions exist, the potential for fire disaster is high.
- Direct attack of fires is virtually impossible, fires often escape initial attack.
- Fire behavior is erratic, "blow ups" may be expected.
- Resistance to control is high, fires are not usually controlled until fire danger subsides.

A wildfire prevention public service message
brought to you by:
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
BOB ODOM, COMMISSIONER

